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OFFICE OF PETITIONS

In re Application of
Robert I. **LECHLER** et al.
Application No. 09/674,462
Filed: May 08, 2001
Attorney Docket No. **2292/OH795**

DECISION ON PETITION

This is a decision on the petition under the unintentional provisions of 37 CFR 1.137(b), filed February 19, 2008, to revive the above-identified application.

The petition is **GRANTED**.

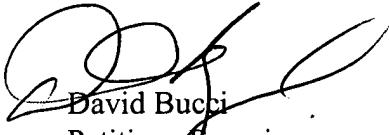
The application became abandoned for failure to reply in a timely manner to the non-final Office action mailed, January 08, 2007, which set a shortened statutory period for reply of three (3) months. No extensions of time under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a) were obtained. Accordingly, the application became abandoned on April 09, 2007.

The petition satisfies the requirements of 37 CFR 1.137(b) in that petitioner has supplied (1) the reply in the form of an amendment, (2) the petition fee of \$770, and (3) a proper statement of unintentional delay. Accordingly, the response to the non-final office action of January 08, 2007 is accepted as having been unintentionally delayed.

It is not apparent whether the person signing the statement of unintentional delay was in a position to have firsthand or direct knowledge of the facts and circumstances of the delay at issue. Nevertheless, such statement is being treated as having been made as the result of a reasonable inquiry into the facts and circumstances of such delay. See 37 CFR 10.18(b) and Changes to Patent Practice and Procedure; Final Rule Notice, 62 Fed. Reg. 53131, 53178 (October 10, 1997), 1203 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 63, 103 (October 21, 1997). In the event that such an inquiry has not been made, petitioner must make such an inquiry. If such inquiry results in the discovery that it is not correct that the entire delay in filing the required reply from the due date for the reply until the filing of a grantable petition pursuant to 37 CFR 1.137(b) was unintentional, petitioner must notify the Office.

Telephone inquiries concerning this decision should be directed to Tredelle Jackson at (571) 272-2783.

This application is being referred to Technology Center AU 1644 for appropriate action on the concurrently filed amendment.



David Bucci
Petitions Examiner
Office of Petitions